Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-93-124
Wednesday
30 June 1993

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FBIS-LAT-93-124 *30 June 1993*

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Cuba

Castro Attends Last Work Day of First ANPP Session

FL2906183093 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1432 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] The first National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] session began its last work day this morning with the presence of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Councils of State and Ministers.

ANPP President Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada read the results of the elections held to elect the president and the vice presidents of the People's Supreme Court and the attorney general of the Republic and its respective vice attorney generals. Dr. Raul Amaro Salup was elected president of the People's Supreme Court. (Graciela Prieto), and (Manuel de Jesus Martin Pirez) were elected vice presidents of the People's Supreme Court. Dr. Juan Escalona Reguera was elected attoney general and (Felipe Aleman) and (Jose Luis Toledo Santander) as vice attorney generals.

The presidents of the different courtrooms of the People's Supreme Court were also elected, as well as the professional judges.

The ANPP morning meeting, which Commander in Chief Fidel Castro attended, evaluated the work of the People's Councils of which 1,200 have been formed throughout the country. ANPP Secretary Ernesto Suarez pointed out that these government links are a bastion in the solution of community problems. He added that the creation of the People's Councils have represented greater control and has allowed them to demand more from the activities that are being developed in every area especially to confront the special period. Suarez went on to say that much work remains to be done so that the People's Councils can fully meet the purposes for which they were created.

Addresses ANPP

FL3006021093 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Report on ANPP meeting by Carlos Santana Ojeda from Convention Center, Havana—live]

[Text] We continue reporting from the Convention Center, where the first session of the fourth legislature of the National Assembly is taking place. Right at the end of the afternoon, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, explained that to the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] will fall the great responsibility of discussing other economic problems currently affecting the nation.

[Begin Castro recording] But of course I suppose it will fall to this assembly—and I take this opportunity to say so—to discuss certain important economic problems, and certain important measures. [end recording]

Fidel explained to the Cuban legislators that we must be creative with each measure life may impose on us.

[Begin Castro recording] We have to invent things. The special period forces us to invent things and do intelligent things for the benefit of the population. [end recording]

Fidel said that reality is putting us to many tests, and then commented:

[Begin Castro recording] Thus, we have to react with great wisdom [sabiduria] to things that exist, realities, things that are imposed on us by this terrible reality. Because no country in the world... [changes thought] We (?are) fighting against the empire all by ourselves. With a socialist bloc that has been destroyed, where we have lost billions, I think we have a right to invent things to survive under such conditions without ever ceasing to be revolutionaries. [end recording]

Those were excerpts of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro's comments to the Cuban legislature.

I also wish to report that the Council of State's legal decrees were approved just a few moments ago. Also, the deputies agreed to have Havana Province and the Sugar Industry Ministry report to the next session of the ANPP, to be held in December, on the cane recovery program.

Further on Castro ANPP Comments

FL3006023093 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Report on ANPP meeting by Rolando Almirante from Convention Center, Havana—live]

[Text] We continue giving details. In another part of his speech this afternoon, during the meetings of the first regular session of the fourth legislature, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro assessed the characteristics of the work of a people's council in a rural area, compared to another such council located in a city.

[Begin Castro recording] Of course we have to keep in mind that there are two kinds of people's councils here: the ones in towns, and especially those in large cities; and the rural ones. We can see that the working conditions [of the council] in [place name indistinct] are different from those in [the municipalities of] Centro Habana, Habana Vieja, and such places. I sincerely believe the work is more difficult here in the city. [end recording]

Castro said the structure of the people's councils had been created with the objective of reinforcing the guidance from the state, and that, precisely, the special period has been a period in which to test how effectively they function. In that way, Castro enunciated [as heard] the possibility of taking them into account as essential

government links during future stages of the life of Cuba. Therefore, it becomes necessary to finish forming these councils nationwide.

[Begin Castro recording] In conclusion, [words indistinct] the idea that we should finish forming the people's councils as quickly as possible. We want not a single citizen left not (?covered by) a people's council, nor a single district delegate who is not part of a people's council. [end recording]

Castro, Alarcon Comment on ANPP Circumstances

FL3006013293 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Report on ANPP meeting by Gisela Bel Heredia from Convention Center, Havana—live]

[Text] After a day of intense discussions, analyses, and projections, the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] has approved, here at the Convention Center, the report on the People's Councils presented by the national temporary commission. Before the deputies reached their decision, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro spoke extensively [realizo una amplia intervencion], assessing the result of the People's Councils and (?their) possibilities during and after the special period.

The leader of the Revolution also referred to the role that falls to the ANPP and the measures the ANPP should take to confront certain problems encountered under the current circumstances. He explained that it takes more than determination and heroism to save the Revolution.

[Begin Castro recording] But it is our duty to be intelligent. I think that the Revolution is not saved through determination, courage, and heroism alone. It is saved through intelligence! And... [interrupted by applause, repeats] through intelligence. [end recording]

Fidel also highlighted other decision-making levels of this assembly—an assembly which, as we have said, is the assembly of the special period.

[Begin Castro recording] It will have to be the assembly of the learned [de los sabios], because to resist the special period in today's world, in all spheres—the political, ideological, military, economic—to confront all this and come out ahead is a matter for experts [sabios]! And perhaps we chose, on 24 February, even though that may not have been our intention, the assembly of the learned. [end recording]

The report on the people's councils was approved, and it was agreed that the permanent commission for attention to local ANPP bodies is to maintain attention to the people's councils as one of its priorities. ANPP president Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada made statements along that line.

[Begin Alarcon recording] That is, I do not think we should think of this discussion as having ended here. It did not begin here today, either, as you know. Discussions have taken place nationwide at all the assemblies. There are many conclusions [reached] at the level of the People's Councils, the municipalities, the provinces, etc. that are all valid. We are continuing with that process, and, of course, the [National] Assembly and its deputies should be informed regularly by the commission of People's Government bodies as to how the councils' activities are going—in the first place, and perhaps the most important, which is also in the report: the definition of the completion, as soon as possible, of [forming] the People's Councils throughout the nation. [end recording]

Castro Closes National Assembly Session

PA3006023893 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Report by Marianela Samper from the Havana Convention Palace]

[Text] On 29 June, Cuban President Fidel Castro, as deputy of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP], closed the summer sessions of this top Cuban Government body.

He said that in these times, courage and strength alone are not enough to save the Revolution. It is necessary to act intelligently. He said: We are alone in the struggle against U.S. imperialism and its blockade and there is a destroyed socialist camp. Therefore, he added, we must produce solutions without ceasing to be revolutionaries.

Fidel Castro said that popular councils are exemplary structures where rank and file delegates have power to exert control, to supervise, and to involve the people in the search for solutions.

It will be a challenge to keep these councils from corroding and to keep them this way after the special period is over, he said.

The Cuban leader also said that in view of the difficult economic situation we are enduring, Cuban deputies will have to be wise people to be able to face all the economic, social, ideological, or political problems that may arise.

Fidel Castro said that it is within the ANPP where laws and agreements which have great social importance must be approved because the people have granted the deputies the responsibility of legislating and of representing them.

Deputy Castro said that one of the most important problems of the national economy is the circulation of foreign exchange resulting from tourism. He said that a commerce network has been established to collect foreign exchange tips given by tourists to tourism-related employees.

Fidel said that intelligent solutions are being sought.

The leader of the Cuban Revolution referred to the efforts being made by the government to give priority to the delivery of food to the population. He recalled that the organization of the food program began prior to the special period and that it included ambitious programs for the production of beef, milk, and other agricultural goods.

Fertilizers and fuel shortages and weather problems have severely hit the initiated project, Fidel said, and therefore we have had to perform miracles to secure supplies.

Fidel Castro stated his opinion on the work carried out at the assembly sessions and pointed out the participation of dozens of deputies, especially from the rank and file and the provinces, who discussed issues discerningly and seriously.

It is encouraging to know that we have a parliament like this, he said, the kind we expected to have during a special period, united in the struggle, in principles, and in our responsibility before history.

Fidel Castro said that Cuba has a huge challenge and that the Cubans will not be lacking high spirits or the will to win.

The deputies approved the issues to be discussed during the forthcoming work session in December, when Havana Province and the Sugar Ministry will report to the ANPP. The Sugar Ministry will be reporting on the recovery of the sugar industry.

Robaina Gives Speech at UN Economic and Social Council

PA3006041193 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Report by Mary Simon in Geneva for PRENSA LATINA Radio Service]

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina briefly described the world's current state of social development, which he described as frustrating, especially in poor countries. The minister rejected the notion that social development can only be achieved through a certain model of political system and through economic neoliberal prescriptions. In his speech before the UN Economic and Social Council, the minister described this outlook briefly:

[Begin Robaina recording] Mr. President: The feeling that best describes the current state of social development is frustration. Twenty-four years after drafting the declaration of social development and progress, most of its goals remain unfulfilled—a bleak outlook for human society. Suffice that we quote as an example UNICEF statistics showing that each year in the underdeveloped world 14 million infants under five years of age die and out of every 1,000 babies born 300 do not reach their first year of age. These are not victims of wars or conflicts. They are victims of underdevelopment and an unfair system of international economic relations that impose conditions of poverty on the majority of humanity and even risks human survival itself.

This tragedy not only means not receiving our daily bread, but it translates into the socioeconomic inadequacy of the individual, of his or her spiritual existence, and the individual's true liberty. It also represents the deterioration of all social development indexes and directly affects the development of those peoples and increasing masses of downtrodden and abandoned people in industrialized countries, who already are identified as the fourth world, which in contrast to the opulent sectors of Northern societies, do not even have access to adequate nutrition, health, or to basic education.

More than 30 years ago Cuba outlined a development strategy to satisfy equally the material and spiritual need of its citizens, without discrimination. The results of this experience show what headway may be made through the criteria of the application of social justice even under adverse conditions.

Our project has not only obtained significant achievements in satisfying primary needs and favoring the rational use of natural and human resources, but it has also encouraged social freedom and broad popular participation in development. Nevertheless, in Cuba, this social development has faced and currently faces a greater powerful obstacle: the economic, trade, and financial blockade that has been imposed on us. This policy, which denies us the right to economic and social development and directly affects our people's standard of living, is an example of the type of policy that needs to be eradicated if we truly want to encourage social development. [end recording]

Haiti

Negotiations Continue; Cedras 'Reconsiders' Demands

FL2906160593 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] According to mediator Dante Caputo, the negotiations in New York for a settlement of the Haitian crisis, that appeared deadlocked on 28 June, might be renewed following a proposal by the United States. UN/OAS mediator Caputo stated, without providing any further explanation, that he had just received some indications that allow him to say that the negotiations are ongoing. According to a diplomat, those indications are seemingly the acceptance by the chief of the Haitian Army, General Raoul Cedras to reconsider his main demand, which is to remain in his post in the event of the return to power of Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide whom he overthrew in September 1991. The ousted president has always refused this demand by Gen. Cedras.

Following a conversation with the general, Caputo felt that there was not any basis for possible negotiations and informed Lawrence Pezzullo, who is in charge of the Haitian crisis at the U.S. State Department, of this. Then, Pezzullo had a private conversation with the general, who has allegedly accepted to initiate an agenda for negotiations with Father Aristide and to discuss all topics on the agenda including his own resignation and that of Joseph Michel Francois, chief of the Port-au-Prince Police. Those changes (?convinced) Caputo of an interest in continuing the negotiations. He then asked that the general repeat his new stand during a tripartite meeting with Pezzullo.

At the conclusion of that meeting that lasted two hours, eyewitnesses saw Caputo heading for the house reserved for Father Aristide during the negotiations that are being held on Governors Island. The two delegations and their leaders have not yet met each other. The following is an assessment of this second day by Radio France International correspondent Pierre Cairol.

[Begin recording] As expected, Gen. Cedras has not come to these talks with his head in a noose. He still refuses to comprehend the Army definitely being removed from power. His demands almost caused everything to fail. The problem is that of the future cooperation between the military high command and President Aristide. How can the president govern in the future with the military who overthrew him? Gen. Cedras has certainly relaxed his stand a bit. He no longer demands to remain at the head of the Army, but still wants the retention of the current hierarchy, that is the retention in their posts of his friends, who are officers.

Furthermore, the general does not want to depart immediately. He wants to obtain a sort of grace period, a transition period of eight to 10 months before the return of President Aristide. It is on these two points that the negotiations [word indistinct] because the president does not want to hear about either the upholding of the military or about a grace period. At this time, the two enemies have still not yet met each other, it is Argentine Dante Caputo who continues coming and going between the president and the general. A final solution appears more difficult as the hours go by.

According to a diplomat, if no progress is reached by the evening of 29 June, the negotiations might break off. [end recording]

Pro-Aristide Demonstration Dispersed 28 Jun

FL2906173793 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Excerpt] A pro-Aristide demonstration was dispersed in Port-au-Prince. About 150 persons, mostly youths, began demonstrating in support of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide on Monday 28 June, in Port-au-Prince in the main poor neighborhood of the capital [Cite Soleil] and were then dispersed by force. The military, who used their clubs, also questioned one of the demonstrators who was taken away with his face covered with blood.[passage omitted]

Belize

Price Welcomes Guatemalan Ratification of Independence

PA2906155093 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1442 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Belize, 29 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Belizean Prime Minister George Price on 29 June voiced "satisfaction" over the announcement made by Guatemalan President Ramiro de Leon Carpio that he will maintain official recognition of Belize, as approved in 1991 by his predecessor, Jorge Serrano Elias.

According to local political analysts, the Guatemalan Government's decision will benefit the political aspirations of Price, who hopes to win the legislative elections slated for 30 June from his traditional rival, the conservative Manuel Esquivel.

The sovereignty and border conflict with Guatemala is one of the key issues in the electoral campaign of this former British colony of 22,963 sq km and some 200,000 people, which is the only English-speaking country of Central America.

Price told ACAN-EFE that he was expecting De Leon Carpio to honor recognition of Belize's independence and the beginning of diplomatic ties as Serrano Elias had approved in August 1991 and the Constitutionality Court of Guatemala had ratified as "valid" in November 1992.

"Belize is a sovereign country, and it exercises sovereignty throughout its territory," Price emphasized referring to Guatemala's territorial claims dating back 150 years. Nonetheless, the ruler said he is willing to support negotiations that will end that dispute, but he did not specify further details to this effect.

According to Belizean Foreign Ministry officials, Guatemala has reduced its demands to Toledo District—one of the six districts into which the country is divided—in order to secure a better outlet to the Atlantic Ocean. Price admitted he regretted the abrupt withdrawal of Serrano Elias from power, following a foiled self-inflicted coup that gave a spectacular turn to Guatemala's old plans for annexation over this area.

The initial break of institutional order and the change of power led to deep concerns in Belize, to the point that Price on 10 June went to London to obtain guarantees from Prime Minister John Major that the United Kingdom would continue guarding the sovereignty of its former colony. Nevertheless, Price emphasized that "my policy seeks to promote peace and respect the agreements that we may sign."

Ever since he returned to power in 1989, Price has been promoting an active diplomatic campaign of rapprochement with the rest of Central America where he has already attended the presidential summits as an "observer."

The Belizean authorities feel that De Leon Carpio, whose role during the Serrano crisis is well known, will open "new opportunities for bilateral dialogue."

Price's policy regarding Guatemala is rejected by the conservative opposition led by Esquivel, who maintains a more "harsh" stand toward Guatemalan aspirations.

The issue is very sensitive for the people of Belize who consider the neighboring Central American nation as its traditional "enemy," from which it feared "invasions" in previous years. According to official reports in Belize, the Guatemalan military in 1972 and 1977 made two serious attempts to mobilize troops against Belize, but they were dissuaded by the presence of British troops, who were reinforced with war ships.

Price does not believe now there will be such an action, and he emphasized that "invasions are a thing of the past."

El Salvador

Police, Ministry, Church Speak on Death of Msgr Ramos

PA2906165193 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 28 Jun 93 p 11

[Excerpt] San Juan Talpa (La Paz)—Armed Forces Chaplain Monsignor Roberto Joaquin Ramos, 68, was gunned down in an apparent robbery attempt on kilometer 34-35 of the highway to Comalapa on the evening of 25 June.

Authorities from San Luis Talpa report Msgr. Ramos had returned from Costa Rica that afternoon and was driving from the international airport to this city in the company of Edgar Vidal Duran and Evelyn Flores de Vidal when they were surprised by a person with a M-16 rifle, who ordered them to stop.

The National Police adds the priest did not heed the order, which prompted the person to fire at the driver's side wounding Msgr. Ramos. The prelate was hit by three shots (on his neck, head, and abdomen). He was rushed to the military hospital but died at 2300, the spokesman for the Armed Forces Press Committee reported on 26 June. Msgr. Ramos' companions, who drove him to the hospital, were unharmed.

Another version claims that thieves had erected a barricade with rocks and branches to force the motorists to stop and then proceed to rob them. It is possible Msgr. Ramos did not stop and this is why the individuals fired at him, they said.

Meanwhile, the defense ministry reports in an official communique that the military vicar was seriously shot on the highway leading to the international airport.

San Salvador Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas said that according to investigations conducted by the Archbishopric Legal Assistance Office the automobile in

which Msgr. Ramos was traveling with a married couple was attacked, but apparently not to rob them.

On 27 June the Bishops Conference, of which Archbishop Rivera is president, issued a communique condemning the action and urging the authorities to conduct an exhaustive investigation to determine the culprits, and above all, to establish the motive.

Archbishop Rivera said on 27 June President Alfredo Cristiani, accompanied by Private Secretary Arturo Tona and Presidency Minister Oscar Santamaria, presented their condolences and promised to order an appropriate and exhaustive investigation.

The archbishop added on 28 June he received a message from Pope John Paul expressing his sorrow over Msgr. Ramos' murder.

The Archbishopric Legal Assistance Office on 27 June ruled out robbery as the motive for the murder of the military vicar. It attributed the action to a "terrorist act." [passage omitted]

Cristiani Promises Investigation

PA2906170393 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] President Alfredo Cristiani said on 28 June that the government will undertake an in-depth investigation of the murder of Monsignor Roberto Joaquin Ramos. He said that the weapon used to kill the priest is of the same caliber as those used in similar holdups in the area.

[Begin Cristiani recording] The investigation will not be passive. It will be just the opposite. Perhaps at the beginning, due to the time when the crime occurred, there was lack of coordination and the police were not immediately notified. [end recording]

Although President Cristiani said the authorities are acting responsibly in the case, he admitted there are some weaknesses in the plan his government has been carrying out against crime for the past months. The president stressed that the investigations of the murder of Msgr. Ramos indicate that the weapon that killed him is of the same caliber as those used in similar holdups in the area.

[Begin Cristiani recording] It does not seem to be an act aimed at a specific person. This might have been an attempt to stop a vehicle to rob its passengers. Although no one said anything about a robbery, the fact was that there was shooting. [end recording]

Cristiani believes the investigations might lead to a band of robbers, but he did not want to state this for certain until the conclusion of the investigations. The president indicated he will ask for the Army's cooperation to carry out preventive actions in support of the work of the National Police. Asked if such a decision might create distrust among Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front members, the president said the interests of society must prevail over group interests.

[Begin Cristiani recording] This is a national problem that cannot be subordinate to the political concerns of one sector. Citizens have every right to demand public security and we must respond to the people in general. [end recording]

Cristiani downplayed the nongovernmental Human Rights Commission's efforts to link future Defense Minister Humberto Corado Figueroa with alleged human rights violations. He said the group is biased and follows leftist guidelines.

General Ponce Calls For Investigation

PA2906171192 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Defense Minister General Rene Emilio Ponce has condemned the murder of Monsignor Roberto Joaquin Ramos and demanded that security authorities and human rights organizations undertake a thorough investigation of the case.

Gen. Ponce pointed out there might not be political motives behind the murder of Msgr. Ramos because, according to him, the facts show that it might have been a criminal action. Nevertheless, he condemned the crime and asked the authorities for an exhaustive investigation to solve the case.

[Begin Ponce recording] I asked the Prosecutor General's Office, the human rights ombudsman, the Commission to Investigate Criminal Actions, and the National Police to open an in-depth investigation to find those responsible for this murder. Crime is creating instability in our country at this time and it should be stopped. [end recording]

Referring to the military changes that will take place on 1 July, Ponce said those selected have sufficient ability to fill the positions. Nevertheless, he added that to improve the military institution's performance, the current high command has drawn up a strategic plan useful for five or more years, which will guarantee the institution's stability.

[Begin Ponce recording] It provides for continuity in the work that must be carried out regarding modernization and reorganization of the Armed Forces to ensure the institution will be respected and to ensure it will serve the nation as the Constitution demands. [end recording]

The defense minister made these remarks during an event in which he and officers who will leave their posts on 1 July were honored. The event was hosted by the officers of the Armed Forces Command and Staff School.

Handal Denies FMLN Links to Kidnapping Group

PA3006041593 San Salvador Radio Venceremos Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] political party on 29 June distanced itself from an alleged terrorist group that planned to kidnap prominent Latin American businessmen. President Alfredo Cristiani reiterated on 28 June that powerful indicators lead to the conclusion that the FMLN is linked to an international kidnapping group that would allegedly finance their activities with the collected ransoms. The alleged international terrorist organization was discovered when clandestine weapons caches belonging to former Salvadoran guerrillas were found in Managua.

Shafik Handal, general coordinator of what is now a political party, said the former guerrilla movement has nothing to do with the case. He acknowledged, however, that one of the five organizations that form the FMLN—the Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces, FPL—had weapons stored in Nicaragua. Documents found in one of the FPL arsenals in Managua revealed the presumed existence of a group that intended to kidnap businessmen from several Latin American nations such as Brazil, Mexico, and Ecuador.

FMLN Coordinator Shafik Handal said the FMLN denies any ties to such an organization. It is absurd, he stated. It would be like destroying our image for the upcoming electoral campaign and all the valuable international relations we have built over the years, Shafik Handal said. We are committed to the strict fulfillment of the peace agreements still pending on the government's part and to preparing for our successful participation in the March 1994 elections, FMLN leader Shafik Handal said.

Guatemala

President Says U.S. Attack on Iraq 'Lamentable'

PA2906153993 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 28 Jun 93 p 3

[Text] "This conflict is lamentable from a humanitarian standpoint" President Ramiro de Leon Carpio stated when asked to comment on a U.S. Navy missile attack on the Iraqi capital two days ago, which left many dead and injured.

"I do not know what repercussions there will be, but I know there will indeed be humanitarian repercussions and subsequent consequences," the president added.

Nicaragua

Foreign Ministry Suspends Maritime Meeting With Honduras

PA2906234893 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 29 Jun 93 p 5

[Text] On 28 June, the Nicaraguan Government informed the Honduran Government of "its objection" to the realization of the Third Meeting of the Honduran-Nicaraguan Maritime Affairs Mixed Commission scheduled to take place on 7 July.

According to a Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry press note, objection to the meeting has risen "considering that it would be reasonable to wait sometime before this meeting takes place."

Veiled Protest

The Foreign Ministry note expresses its "expectations that conditions will be created such that the agreements that will come about during the meeting will respond to Central American and integrationist interests to which we are all committed as neighbor countries joined by historical, human, judicial, and geographic ties."

Analysts believe that the Nicaraguan decision is linked closely to the recent exchange of notes between both governments following Honduran President Rafael Leonardo Callejas' meeting last week with his Colombian colleague Cesar Gaviria on the island of San Andres. This island currently is being disputed by Nicaragua and Colombia.

In a note sent to the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry, Acting Honduran Foreign Minister Yolanda de Suazo states that Callejas' trip "was, in a way, intended toward taking sides in a territorial dispute between two brother nations such as Nicaragua and Colombia."

Issues Communique on Meeting

PA3006043793 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0230 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text of communique issued by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry in Nicaragua on 28 June]

[Text] On 28 June, the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua notified the Government of the Republic of Honduras of its objection to the celebration of the third meeting of the Mixed Honduran-Nicaraguan Commission on Maritime Affairs on the agreed date, 7 July 1993, and deems it appropriate to wait some time before holding that meeting.

Furthermore, it expresses its hope that conditions will be created so that the agreements that may be reached at the said meeting respond to the Central American and integrationist interests to which we are committed as neighboring countries united by historical human, legal, and geographical ties.

[Issued] Managua, 28 June 1993.

Directorate of Information and Communication.

Editorial Views U.S. Attack on Iraq

PA3006013793 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 29 Jun 93 p 4

[Editorial: "The Imperial Stick: "The United States Against Iraq"]

[Text] Despite the fact that it is recognized that Iraq poses no threat to its neighbors—much less the United States—President Clinton decided to make a show of force and impunity by launching Tomahawk missiles against Iraq. It does not matter what the pretext was, what is important is to reconfirm the empire's willingness to overpower.

Let us say that if other nations followed the U.S. steps, the Pentagon would have been turned into rubble a long time ago. If not, let us recall the numerous times the Yankee governments have attempted to kill heads of state. Fidel [Castro] and Libyan Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, whose young child they murdered in a bombing of his residence, are examples of what we are saying.

But Clinton, given the loss of popularity and hounding by the Republicans, needed to wield Popeye's fist to recover and for the Third World nations not to forget the policeman is "forever alert."

The fact that they killed civilians is of no concern. These are mere collateral effects, said General Colin Powell. These are the same effects that the POSSIBLE murder of Bush would have caused, he added. The difference is that if the latter remained a possibility, the dead Iraqis are a gloomy reality.

Not having taken into account the United Nations is a mere oversight. The United States is judge and jury and it decides—without any further consultation—on mankind's destiny. To sum it up, it imposes the law of the jungle and the United Nations is nothing more than a mask to cover the face of a tyrant.

Long live the unipolar world!

Leal Comments on Foreign Affairs Issues

PA3006035893 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 29 Jun 93 p 5

[Report by Maria Alicia Talavera; all quotation marks as published]

[Text] Foreign Minister Ernesto Leal stated on 28 June that Nicaragua will continue to insist that the maritime delimiting treaties signed by Colombia with Costa Rica and Honduras in 1977 and 1986 respectively "has no validity because they are detrimental to our territorial sovereignty."

The foreign minister made the aforementioned statements after receiving a Honduran Government reply to a Nicaraguan note protesting President Rafael Leonardo Callejas' visit last week to the island of San Andres, a territory that currently is under dispute between Nicaragua and Colombia.

The Honduran note, Leal pointed out, states that "the visit was not with the idea of creating a confrontation with the Nicaraguan Government, or in any way try to damage or harm our interests or territorial pretensions over the Archipelago of San Andres."

However, the Violeta Chamorro government will continue to "appeal to the Central American spirit" when a country in the region has a dispute with a country that is foreign to the region. Leal commented that "we believe Central Americans must reveal their solidarity if we are in a process of political integration."

That solidarity, he demanded, must be reflected in facts. Nicaragua has introduced its claims to Colombia in the Central American agenda because "if we are thinking of a new Central America, then the claims must be [by all] Central Americans."

The foreign minister said that his government will continue to work bilaterally for the Honduran and Costa Rican Congresses not to ratify the treaties each nation signed with Colombia. According to Minister Leal, "that would be similar to having two neighbors split the back yard of another neighbor who lives in between."

To Leal, the long-standing claim by Colombia over the San Andres island and the Caribbean keys is an issue that is not included in any agenda, but it "is alive." The relations between Colombia and Nicaragua are excellent, even though "this does not mean that we do not have territorial differences, or territorial claims pending which are now being solved according to international law."

Comments on the Attack on Iraq

Leal, who today travelled to Taiwan, Singapore and Brunei, referred to the recent U.S. attack against Iraq. "We condemn any act of terrorism in the world and, obviously, the attempt against former President Bush also deserves our condemnation as a government."

In reference to the U.S. bombing attack on Iraq, Leal stated that "Article 51 of the UN Charter refers to the legitimate right of individual or collective defense by the states... We would rather await the UN Security Council interpretation of the incidents."

Suspicion of Espionage

With respect to the telephone espionage investigation the government was about to launch as a result of revelations of a telephone conversation between a Foreign Ministry official and Jose Mas Canosa, an activist

with the Miami Cuban-American community, Leal stated that "we have not yet received a resolution from the Government Ministry."

Foreign Minister Leal commented that some suspicious actions have been detected, and I have been verbally informed about some things, however we still do not have a definite perspective."

"Since no crime has being committed here, and the law has not been violated, some people may have possibly been used for political purposes. However, the government has not been harmed. The Government Ministry has notified me about some suspicions, but it does not have anything concrete. The suspicions we have comes from our intelligence sources which I cannot disclose at this time."

In commenting on another issue, Leal said that $1 million would be required to start the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan institutional projects along the banks of the San Juan river.

He stated that there is an interinstitutional commission (EPS [Sandinist People's Army], Government Ministry, Ineter [Nicaraguan Institute of Territorial Studies], Irena [Nicaraguan Natural Resources and Environment Institute], and so forth), and insisted that the presence of Minsa [Health Ministry] and the Med [Education Ministry] was fundamental to provide attention to the population in the area.

According to the foreign minister, control over the San Juan river must begin this year [as published]. If there is no possibility of obtaining the needed funds in the national budget, then it will have to be done through some international organization.

Panama

Deputy Foreign Minister Explains Position on Serrano

PA2906181093 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 29 Jun 93 p 2A

[Report by Manuel Alvarez Cedeno]

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Mulino said on 28 June that Panama is not protecting a criminal by rejecting the Guatemalan authorities' request for the arrest of former Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano.

Serrano, who was granted asylum in Panama 23 days ago, is accused in Guatemala of 11 crimes, including illegal enrichment and violation of the Constitution.

Mulino was interviewed by the media at the end of the inauguration of the Fourth Consultative Meeting on the Environment, sponsored by the Inter-American Development Bank.

Asked if by rejecting Guatemala's request for Serrano's arrest, Panama is protecting a criminal, Mulino replied visibly annoyed: "We are not covering up anything. Our document explains everything."

The Panamanian deputy foreign minister explained that Guatemala has yet to request the former president's extradition and that the only thing that has been rejected is the request for Serrano's preventive arrest.

"We have not rejected the extradition. They have not requested it...we have rejected the preventive arrest and that decision is stated in the Foreign Ministry document" issued last week, Mulino stated.

Guatemala requested the preventive arrest of Serrano, who is accused of such crimes as illegal enrichment, but authorities indicated that Panama rejected the request because it did not fulfill the requirements established by the Caracas Convention on diplomatic asylum.

The deputy foreign minister reiterated that the Panamanian Government's position is stated in the Foreign Ministry's communique.

"I have nothing else to add," Mulino said.

Serrano is staying in a condominium located in the exclusive La Cresta neighborhood, where U.S. Ambassador Deane Hinton also lives.

Opposition sectors have harshly criticized Panama's granting asylum to Serrano.

Former Foreign Ministry adviser Julio Berrio said Panama should have accepted Guatemala's request and ordered Serrano's arrest because the request was well founded.

President Guillermo Endara said Serrano was granted asylum because he is being politically persecuted and, in addition, he is his "personal friend."

Argentina

Menem Discusses NAFTA, Economy, Other Issues With Clinton

PY3006030193 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0006 GMT 29 Jun 93

[By correspondent Carlos Lucido]

[Text] Washington, 29 Jun (TELAM)—The United States "agrees with Argentina in changing" the exports subsidy policy and "they have promised not to sell any more subsidized products to Latin America," President Carlos Menem said today as he announced that "there are great possibilities that my country may join the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). [no closing quotation marks received]

Menem, who this afternoon gave a news conference at the National Press Club after meeting and attending a working lunch with U.S. President Bill Clinton in the White House, said that the meeting "was excellent, very interesting for Argentina, and consisted of a high-level conversation."

The Argentine chief of state said that he discussed with Clinton Argentina's joining the NAFTA, although he clarified that "a lot must yet be done in this field because the treaty has not even been ratified by the U.S. Congress."

Menem added: "Besides, we must not forget that Argentina is working on the Mercosur [Common Market of the South], and it is committed with the United States through the Four Plus One Agreement of free trade integration in the region, which would allow Mercosur to join NAFTA."

When asked about the main subjects discussed during the meeting, Menem said the economic developments of the continents, the conflicts in Haiti and Guatemala, the medicine patents law, farming subsidies, and world terrorism.

Regarding the Argentine economic policy, Menem said that "if someone attempts to change the course, it would be suicidal. If the reelection issue is not possible I hope that a man with these ideas will come to power," meaning ideas of free market economy.

A journalist then asked the president if he continued to support the idea of reelection, to which Menem answered: "I did not speak of my reelection. If I speak about this it is your fault, you who ask me about it every day, and when I remain silent you criticize me."

"Besides, I began discussing this issue on account of the former president, who was the one who launched the reelection project. It is the work of Alfonsin, not me," the president said.

"I would like to ask you why there exists reelection in [words indistinct] in Argentina. And now I am acting as a journalist," Menem said, smiling, which prompted the general laughter of the public.

When asked whether Argentine-U.S. relations would help Argentina recover the Malvinas Islands, Menem said: "This growing friendship at the level of countries favors this attempt—that dates since 1833—of recovering the islands."

"However, relations between Argentina and the United Kingdom are excellent. There is only one problem that will be solved through diplomatic means," the Argentine president said.

'Unofficial' Nuclear Requests Submitted

PY3006023393 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2325 GMT 29 Jun 93

["By NA correspondent in Washington"]

[Text] Argentina today delivered to the United States a confidential, unofficial document containing a number of requests related to nuclear development for peace as an immediate, specific result of the dismantling of the Condor-2 project.

In the document, Argentina asks for U.S. investments in the nuclear area and requests that the possibility be explored for training Argentine students in the United States.

Argentina also requests the sale of 20 percent-enriched uranium for medical projects and authorization to import electronic equipment related to the atom.

An electronic accelerator, the retrofitting [reciclaje] of the Falda del Carmen plant, and aspects related to satellite technology are also included in this unofficial document.

Condor-2 Missile Parts Sent to Spain

PY2906232593 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2121 GMT 28 Jun 93

["By NA correspondent in Washington"]

[Text] Washington, 29 Jun (NA)—Argentine President Carlos Menem has formally informed U.S. President Bill Clinton that the last parts of the Condor-2 missile project today left Argentina for Spain.

The information about the total deactivation of the missile project was one of the main and most confidential subjects discussed during the private meeting held today between the two presidents.

According to sources from the Argentine delegation, Argentina asked the United States to help remove some of the obstacles regarding the Malvinas Islands situation.

It has been learned that Argentina favors signing a South Atlantic military defense treaty, while the United Kingdom either opposes it or wants to include Chile in it.

Regarding the Pampa project, an Argentine-developed airplane, Menem suggested to Clinton that a U.S. company purchase it, allowing Argentina to produce some parts in order to use the plant in Cordoba.

Colombia

Security Council Approves Talks With People's Militias

PA2906190193 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] The Security Council, which met at Narino Presidential Palace a few minutes ago, has given the green light for talks to be held with the People's Militias in Medellin.

The Prosecutor General's Office will be responsible for determining the legal status of members of the People's Militias, while political agreements will be handled initially by the mayor of Medellin.

The Security Council also discussed the negotiating process with the Socialist Renewal Movement. The government announced that those talks will not be held in Corozal.

[Begin unidentified government spokesman recording] We are in total agreement that the talks will not take place in an urban area. We have ruled out holding them in any municipal capital. We have said from the outset that the government will not agree to have this guerrilla group concentrated in an urban area, a municipal capital, or an important city like Corozal. If held in any part of that municipality, the talks will have to take place in a rural area where they will not interfere with the civilian population. [end recording]

Paraguay

Customs Tax Causes Disagreement Among Mercosur Countries

PY2906213593 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 29 Jun 93 pp 20-21

[Text] The convenience and good sense of adopting a single customs tax within the framework of the Mercosur [Common Market of the South] is the main issue of discussion in the series of negotiations at the experts' level that opened yesterday in Asuncion. At this time, the experts themselves (particularly the minor partners of the treaty) have doubts about the convenience of establishing a single customs tax with Brazil and Argentina. This in itself questions Mercosur's existence.

None other than the survival of Mercosur itself depends on the negotiations that opened yesterday at the Central Bank building. Beyond the establishment of a customs tax (mainly consisting of a surcharge on import rates) what is at stake right now is the convenience of establishing a single customs tax for all four countries.

In fact, in view of the huge economic differences among member countries, experts question whether it is convenient, or even logical, for these countries to establish a single customs tax.

The easier way out in this case would be to postpone the enforcement of the single customs tax. But such a decision would be a hard political blow to the treaty.

Mercosur cannot be considered a common market if the four countries do not reach an agreement on a single customs tax. But its implementation is highly inconvenient for Paraguayan and Uruguayan interests.

This is in addition to the elimination of protective laws against unfair trade practices or subsidies (anti-dumping [previous word in English] laws) protecting domestic markets.

These same practices raised difficulties regarding the Argentine-Brazilian wheat market agreement, when Brazil decided to purchase U.S. subsidized wheat to the detriment of the Argentine production, thus violating the bilateral agreement.

At any rate, the decision on the single customs tax will be a political one and as such it will be adopted by the economy ministers, who are scheduled to meet on 1 July.

Fulfillment of Las Lenas Timetable Analyzed

PY3006024793 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 29 Jun 93 p 18

[Text] Talking to the press on the subjects included in the working agenda of the Common Market of the South [Mercosur] group, the deliberations of which continued today, Paraguay's Industry Vice Minister Ruben Fadlala said that "strategically, this is a very important meeting, because we are analyzing the development of the timetable established at Las Lenas to verify the fulfillment of the guidelines agreed upon by the presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay at the meeting held in June 1992."

Fadlala added that significant progress was achieved in most technical subgroups, but that there are also delays in others which will be reviewed during this meeting.

Without giving further details on the most obvious delays of the regional integration process seeking the implementation of the Mercosur, Fadlala said that they are in line with the macroeconomic policies of the four member countries.

He added that some delays are awaiting the establishment of political decisions by the governments to continue with their specific missions. He said that the

Mercosur group began the study of each situation and that "it will give the appropriate coordinates to again promote the fulfillment of the timetable."

Explaining the scope of the political decisions that must be made on this occasion, he said that "decisions must be made in relation to the guidelines that must be followed concerning the union of customs; a consensus must be reached on these guidelines concerning the different positions of the member countries on the implementation of the different programs established at Las Lenas, having to do with the creation of a customs union and the creation of a common space for free traffic and commerce," he said.

Ruben Fadlala also admitted that due to the delays observed in several points of the Las Lenas timetable, the Mercosur group will study each situation "to decide whether the established deadline can be extended, and to follow this extended deadline with precise guidelines to maintain the idea established for the organization of the Mercosur."

Finally, the industry vice minister reported that the establishment of guidelines for a common foreign tariff will be considered at the meeting of vice economy ministers of the four countries, which will be held tomorrow in our capital.

Decision To Follow Chilean Economic Model Questioned

PY2906170193 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 28 Jun 93 p 14

[Excerpt] A few days ago U.S. Ambassador Jon Glassman talked before the new executive board of the Paraguayan-American Chamber of Commerce. Glassman drew a detailed portrait of what his government would like to see regarding Paraguayan economic policies. The ambassador casually mentioned that there is $1 billion for Paraguay if the "suggestions" are accepted.

This powerful card, the ace up the ambassador's sleeve, deprives his remarks of all objectivity. Glassman is claiming the representation of nothing less than all international credit organizations.

The ambassador casually mentioned two countries in the region—Argentina and Chile—as examples of what Paraguay must resemble to have (in his own words) "international recognition."

In other words, the money holder made quite clear that our country must imitate these two neighbors if it wants to receive the financing of international organizations, and must have an ear set on the dictates of the U.S. Government at the time.

The new administration, obviously, does not look the other way at the "American friend's" dictates. After the contracting of Hernan Bucchi as economic adviser it seems almost inevitable that Paraguay will follow Pinochet's, Menem's , and Aylwin's steps.

We are left, therefore, with only the possibility of reviewing the implications for our country of the examples "proposed" by the ambassador and rapidly accepted by our elected authorities.

The economic changes in the trans-Andean country—conveniently publicized and detailed—appear shrouded even today in an almost mystic aura. It is called "the Chilean miracle" and it is the immediate successor to the ill-fated "Brazilian miracle," which has been declining since the mid-1980's.

Chilean economic indicators, however, were not altogether encouraging in the first quarter of 1993 following the exporting ecstasy of 1992.

The Chilean peso is devaluing at a speed that almost seems out of control. In a few weeks the peso accumulated a devaluation of more than 10 percent and currently shows a strong tendency to devalue even further.

Several private firms seen in the past as synonyms for success have began registering losses. According to the 25 April edition of EL MERCURIO, "the balance of trade will show a deficit for the first time in 10 years."

The article does not give figures regarding the expected deficit, but it is estimated it will reach nearly $500 million by the end of the year. This amount is lower than the deficit registered in Paraguay during 1992, but it is alarming if we consider that Chilean exports increased 13 percent during that year. [passage omitted]

New Colorado Party Movement Created on Basis of Old Party

PY2906221093 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 26 Jun 93 p 5

[Text] The Colorado Democratic Union [Union Democratica Colorada] (UDC) is the name of the new movement launched last night at ANR [National Republican Association—Colorado Party] headquarters by the so-called "democratic" or former "antagonist" sectors of the party.

The Mopoco [Colorado Popular Movement] and the Colorado Historic Front are the factions that have promoted the UDC, which has as its objective the modernization "of the Colorado Party's principles, doctrine, and ethics," according to the movement's founding chapters.

The UDC will assume a critical position and give support to those Colorados who obtained elective posts, according to the document that has been released.

A coordinating board, which will make the movement's political decisions, will be created to implement its institutional functions.

According to the document, the UDC has as its basic objective the regrouping of the so-called Colorado "democratic" leaders.

Government Rejects Deputy's Remarks Against Diplomats

PY3006022793 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 29 Jun 93 p 9

[Quotation marks as published]

[Text] The Executive Branch this morning rejected the offensive remarks and opinions uttered by progovernment Deputy Sandino Gill Oporto against members of the diplomatic corps in general, amd against Apostolic Nuncio Jose Sebastian Laboa in particular. Foreign Minister Alexis Frutos Vaesken this morning delivered an official note to Ecuadoran Ambassador Gustavo Cordovez Pareja, who has acted as a spokesmen for the diplomats accredited to our country.

Frutos stated that the Executive Branch in no way approves of Gill Oporto's offensive words against Monsignor Laboa. In its note, the Executive Branch reaffirms and "confirms the esteem and respect in which it holds the members of the diplomatic corps accredited to our government, especially the dean of the corps, Msgr. Laboa.

The note adds that Msgr. Laboa has shown efficiency and dedication in discharging his duties in Paraguay, and he has thus honored the mission entrusted to him." The Executive Branch then notes the international recognition Msgr. Laboa received for the role he played during the conflict that prompted General Manuel Noriega to seek asylum at the Vatican diplomatic mission in Panama City.

The note was addressed to all heads of foreign diplomatic missions accredited to our country in reply to a note filed yesterday by the plenum of the diplomatic corps protesting "the undignifying remarks" Gill Oporto used in reference to some foreign ambassadors.

Cordovez said he will deliver the note to the other heads of mission and thus the subject will be closed.

Peru

Opposition Begins Work on Alternative Draft Constitution

PY2906220893 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 6 Jun 93 p A4

[Excerpt] On the same day that the Democratic Constitutent Congress [CCD] began debate on the draft Constitution, the minority opposition parties will submit to the legislative assembly their own draft constitution, which will include the reforms that were not acknowledged by the CCD.

The opposition parties' decision to draft their own constitution surfaced a month ago, and since then they have been discreetly working on it. So far they have completed about 70 percent of the work.

Representatives of the Popular Christian Party [PPC], Democratic Left Movement [MDI], Independent Moralization Front [FIM], Solidarity and Democracy [Sode], Independent Agrarian Movement [MIA], and the Democratic Coordinating Group [CD] are participating in this initiative.

It should be pointed out that the CCD, with 13 members, seats Lourdes Flores (PPC), Henry Pease (MDI), Jose Barba (CD), Fernando Olivera (FIM), currently suspended, and Gonzalo Ortiz de Zeballos (MR).

The Renewal Movement is the only group not participating in the initiative to sign a minority resolution.

The draft Constitution that will be signed by opposition spokesmen will be contained in a minority resolution contrary to the majority resolution to be signed by representatives of the governing New Majority-Change 90 in the CCD.

CCD President Carlos Torres y Torres Lara, during his visits to the Peruvian interior, has already begun to learn about the contents of the majority resolution.

However, key issues of the new Constitution, such as the reelection of the president and the death sentence, still have to be resolved.

FIM representative Fernando Olivera Vega disclosed that today the opposition representatives are starting a tour of the interior, beginning in Cajamarca, to inform the people about their proposals for the amendment of the 1979 Constitution.

Lourdes Flores Nano of the PPC, Henry Pease of the MDI, Fernando Olivera of the FIM, and a Sode leader on behalf of legislator Manuel Moreyra will hold their first conference at the Cajamarca Provincial Council auditorium on 7 July.

In the next few days opposition spokesmen will hold two conferences: one in Villa El Salvador and the other in Surquillo. They will hold similar meetings later in Cuzco and Piura.

Olivera Vega also disclosed that in addition to these conferences, the day before yesterday spokesmen of the CCD opposition minority asked the CCD presidency to extend the deadline of the definite approval of the Constitution. [passage omitted]

Criticizes Commission Chairman's Action

PA2906191293 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] The publication of a communique signed by Carlos Torres y Torres Lara on behalf of the Constitution Commission he presides over has unleashed strong

criticism from the opposition, which is now trying to censure him. Here is a report:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] a communique issued by the Constitution Commission refuting a report on the commission's work published by EL COMERCIO. Fernando Olivera [congressman for the Independent Moralization Front] questioned this action claiming commission members had no knowledge of and much less approved of that communique. Meanwhile, Carlos Torres justified the measure and attributed the decision in order to make the communique public.

[Torres] We had to issue an explanation; I had to do that in my capacity as commission chairman. The leadership decided to publish this communique.

[Reporter] The opposition in full voiced its dissatisfaction with the reasons given and focused its criticism on what it described as restrictions on freedom of expression.

[Henry Pease, Democratic Left Movement congressman] He cannot say whatever he pleases on our behalf. He cannot on our behalf tell a newspaper how it should rectify a report. He cannot on our behalf judge a newspaper's behavior. He may, however, tell a newspaper: I said this but not that.

[Unidentified speaker] [Words indistinct] (?proposal) by Mr. Henry Pease's to censor Constitution Commission Chairman Carlos Torres? [end recording]

Debate of this issue was postponed until the evening of 28 June in view of Carlos Torres' disadvantage during the morning session as he did not enjoy the support of his absent bloc colleagues.

Congressman Speaks on Downing of DEA Plane

PA2906152993 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Statement by Gilberto Siura, member of the Democratic Constituent Congress, in Lima; date not given—recorded]

[Text] I am talking about technical aid the U.S. is reportedly giving Peru. The House of Representatives would reportedly condition such aid to Peruvian compensation to relatives of the victims of the tragic April 1992 accident. The responsibilities in that DEA plane downing were never completely defined.

I think the U.S. Senate will have the last word on this case. It will either ratify or rectify the decisions of commissions of the House of Representatives. We have always maintained the pilots of the U.S. plane made a mistake because they failed to heed orders from base and from the planes that were pursuing them.

This was a tragic accident. I think the United States must assume responsibility for its stand toward our country's sovereignty.